

EXPRESSIVE UTTERANCES IN THE PSALMS OF OLD TESTAMENT



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EXPRESSIVE UTTERANCES IN THE PSALMS OF OLD TESTAMENT

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ABSTRAK

Fokus penelitian ini adalah *expressive utterances* di dalam Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur. Penelitian ini memiliki dua tujuan pokok yaitu, (1) untuk mengidentifikasi *syntactic form of expressive utterances* di dalam Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur, dan (2) untuk mencari *intention of expressive utterances* di dalam Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur. Penelitian ini menggunakan jenis penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Data dalam penelitian ini adalah semua kata, frase, klausa, dan kalimat yang terkait dengan *expressive utterances*. Sumber data dalam penelitian ini adalah Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur. Data dalam penelitian ini dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan *existing or secondary method*. Langkah langkah penulis dalam mengumpulkan data adalah dengan membaca Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur, mencatat kata; frase; klausa; dan kalimat yang mengandung *expressive utterances*, dan memberi kode pada setiap datanya. Teknik dalam menganalisis data adalah mendeskripsikan *the syntactic form* dengan merujuk pada teori Fowler (1983) dan Brown (1984) dan mendeskripsikan *the intention* dengan merujuk pada teori *expressive speech act* dari Yule (1996). Hasil dari penelitian menunjukkan bahwa (1) *the syntactic form of expressive utterances* adalah dibagi menjadi 4 dan pembagiannya adalah: (1) Kalimat Pernyataan, kalimat pernyataan itu sendiri juga dibagi menjadi 4 jenis, yaitu: (a) Kalimat Sederhana 25 data (30,48%), (b) Kalimat Majemuk 14 data (17,07%), (c) Kalimat Kompleks 7 data (8,54%), dan (d) Kalimat Majemuk Kompleks 23 data (28,05%), (2) Kalimat Perintah, kalimat perintah itu sendiri juga dibagi menjadi 2 jenis, yaitu: (a) Positif 7 data (8,54%) dan (b) Negatif 2 data (2,44%), (3) Kalimat Pertanyaan 2 data (2,44%), dan (4) Kalimat Seruan 2 data (2,44%) dan (2) *the intention of expressive utterances* di dalam Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur dibagi menjadi 3 dan pembagiannya adalah: memuji ada 45 data (54,9%), pernyataan tentang pesakitan ada 24 data (29,3%), dan ucapan syukur ada 13 data (15,8%).

Kata kunci : *syntactic form*, *expressive utterances*, dan Kitab Perjanjian Lama surat Mazmur

ABSTRACT

This research focuses on expressive utterances in the Psalms of Old Testament. This research has two major objectives (1) to identify the syntactic form of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament and (2) to find out the intention of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament. This research is descriptive qualitative research. The data in this research are all English utterances that support the occurrence of expressive utterances. The source of data is Psalms of Old Testament. The data are collected using existing or secondary data method. The steps of collecting

data in this research are reading the Psalms of Old Testament, taking note on all utterances containing expressive speech act, and giving codes on each datum. Techniques of analyzing data are describing the syntactic form referring to the theory by Fowler (1983) and Brown (1984), and describing the intention of expressive utterances referring to the theory of expressive speech act of Yule (1996). The result of the research shows that (1) the syntactic forms of expressive utterances are: The syntactic form of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament is divided into 4 and the distribution is: (1) Declarative Sentence, declarative sentence itself is divided into 4 types namely; (a) Simple Sentence 25 data (30.48%), (b) Compound Sentence 14 data (17.07%), (c) Complex Sentence 7 data (8.54%), and (d) Compound-Complex Sentence 23 data (28.05%), (2) Imperative Sentence, imperative sentence itself is also divided into 2 types namely; (a) Positive 7 data (8.54%) and (b) Negative 2 data (2.44%), (3) Interrogative Sentence 2 data (2.44%), and (4) Exclamation 2 data (2.44%) and (2) The intention of expressive utterances found in the psalms of old testament is divided into 3 and the distribution is: praising 45 data (54.9%), statement of pain 24 data (29.3%), and statement of gratitude 13 data (15.8%).

Keywords : syntactic form, expressive utterances, and Psalms of Old Testament

1. INTRODUCTION

People pass through this life by using sacred text as direction and guidance. Sacred text consists of life direction and guidance from God for Its followers. One of sacred texts is Bible. Bible is a kind of sacred text of Christians. Bible is a collection of sacred text of both Judaism and Christianity.

The writer is greatly interested in doing the analysis dealing with expressive utterances in one of chapters in Old Testament called Psalms because of the following reasons. The first, it is the longest chapter in both of Old and New Testament. Besides, it is the most expressive chapter of all because it describes people's deepest feeling about the needs to praise and worship God. Then, it feels so special among others because from 150 verses, it is divided into 5 groups based on the fact that it was originally not collected but for the first time of David's effort to collect them into a group. It is a topic that would be interesting to be analyzed because there are a lot of messages contained in Bible that is certainly becomes a guideline in the course of Christians' live in this world.

The writer found some utterances; some of them are expressive utterances. The following are the examples of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament:

- (1) For the music director; by the Lord's servant David, who sang to the Lord the words of this song when the Lord rescued him from the power of all his enemies, including Saul. He said: **"I love you, Lord, my source of strength!"** (Psalms, 18: 1)

The utterance "I love you, Lord, my source of strength!" is using expressive utterance. The utterance "I love you, Lord, my source of strength!" is the speaker's statement implies affection feeling that is uttered by the sentence "I love you, Lord, my source of strength!" The intention of the utterance is to show the speaker's affection feeling. Meanwhile, the addressee of the speaker's statement is Lord, so the intention is to convey the speaker's great affection to Lord or his praising to Lord. It can be recognized easily as praising speech act because the speaker uses utterance "I love you".

- (2) A psalm of David, written when he fled from his son Absalom. Lord how numerous are my enemies! Many attack me. Many say about me, “God will not deliver him”. **But You, Lord, are a shield that protects me;** you are my glory and the one who restores me. (Psalms, 3: 3)

The statement above shows that the speaker is David. It portrays a description when David fled from his son Absalom. Through this verse, David states that Lord is the one who can save him. David describes Lord as a shield that protects him from any enemies because there are many people who want to attack him. The intention of the utterance is to praise the Lord because He has saved David's life from a number of David's enemies. So, it can be recognized as praising speech act because the speaker's intention is to praise what his addressee has been done to him.

From the simple example above, it can be concluded that there are a lot of meanings in Psalms of Old Testament that need to be understood by Christians. Both Old and New Testament are guideline and instruction in congregational life and society.

There are many ways used by people to reveal their feeling, either in real action or utterance. People prefer using utterance to express their feeling to others. Communication clearly depends on not only recognizing the meaning of words in an utterance, but recognizing what speakers mean by their utterances. Utterance is very important in communication to present what the speaker's intention to the hearer and it is the physical production of linguistic behavior. An utterance is an act of speech or writing; it is a specific event, at a particular time and place. It involves at least one person, the one who produces the utterance, but usually more than one person.

Pragmatics focuses on the study of meaning as intended by the speaker's need. In studying pragmatics, people are familiar with speech act. Speech act is the action performed by a speaker with an utterance. We use the term speech act to describe actions such as requesting, commanding, questioning, or informing. Speech acts are divided into five classes: declarative, representative, expressive, commissive, and directive.

The speakers express their feeling by making their words fit with their internal psychological world which is generally known as expressive utterances. Expressive utterance belongs to adjective, which shows your feelings or thought. Thus, expressive utterance is a kind of speech acts based on psychological states and relate to the expression of feelings or emotions towards the hearer.

This research is different from the other researches in this topic. Dealing with this research, there are not found any researches related to analysis of expressive speech act in viewed from pragmatics perspective. The following are examples of several previous researches that have been done by the earlier researchers:

- (1) Raharjo (2015), a student of Sebelas Maret University, conducts a research entitled “An Analysis of Expressive Utterances Produced by the Characters in the Movie Entitled Spongebob Squarepants: A Pragmatics Study”. The result of the research shows that there are four types of sentence of expressive utterances that are employed in Spongebob Squarepants movie transcript, that is, ellipsis (19 utterances), declaratives (13 utterances), interrogatives (1 utterance), and imperatives (4 utterances); (2) there are six notions of expressive utterances found in the Spongebob Squarepants movie transcript, that is, surprise (2 utterances), happiness (14 utterances), anger (6 utterances), apologize (5 utterances), congratulate (1 utterance), and thanks (7 utterances).

- (2) Ratnasari (2012), a student of Sebelas Maret University, has been done a research entitled “The Analysis of Searle’s Expressive Speech Acts Operating in “Changeling” (Pragmatics Study in the Film)”. From the result of the data analysis, there are five types of expressive speech acts employed by the characters in the movie “Changeling”. They are apologizing, blaming, congratulating, praising, and thanking.

From those two examples, it seems that the earlier researchers dealing with expressive speech acts used movie transcript as the object and the source of data. As far as the writer explores, basically there have not found yet a research dealing with expressive speech act conducted in Bible especially Psalms of Old Testament. So, the writer hopes that this research is expected to fill the void of the previous researches.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research is descriptive qualitative research which conducted by collecting the data, analyzing the data, and making a conclusion from the result of analysis. This research is conducted to describe the syntactic form and the intention of expressive utterances in Psalms of Old Testament. The data in this research are all English utterances that support the occurrence of expressive utterances. There are 82 data of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament. The source of data is Psalms of Old Testament. The data are collected using existing or secondary data method. Existing or secondary data can be documents, physical data, and archived data. The writer uses documents as the sources of the data. The writer analyzes the valid data by doing the following steps:

- a. The Syntactic Form of Expressive Utterances
 - 1) The writer filters the data that an utterance is formed in a syntactic form (sentence structure) which can be classified into simple sentence, compound sentence, complex sentence, compound-complex sentence referring to the theory by Fowler (1983) and Brown (1984).
 - 2) Drawing conclusion.
- b. The Intention of Expressive Utterances
 - 1) Classifying the expressive utterances into subclasses of expressive utterances in Psalms of Old Testament namely: Praising (Prs), Statement of Pain (Pn), and Statement of Gratitude (Grt) by referring to the theory of expressive speech act of Yule (1996).
 - 2) Describing the pragmatics context of every expressive utterance in the Psalms of Old Testament by referring to the theory of Leech (1983).
 - 3) Describing the locution and illocution of each datum by referring to the theory of Levels of Speech Acts by Austin in Levinson (1983).
 - 4) Drawing conclusion.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the data analysis, finally the writer can summarize the findings:

a. The Syntactic Form of Expressive Utterances

The summary of the syntactic form of expressive utterances is delivered below:

Table 3.1
The Syntactic Form of Expressive Utterances

N o	Syntactic Form	Examples of Data	Amount (Σ)	Percentage (%)
1	Declarative a. Simple		25	30.48%

	b. Compound	1. A prayer of David. Protect me, O God, for I have taken shelter in You. I say to the Lord, <u>"You are the Lord, my only source of well-being".</u> (Psalms, 16: 2)		
		2. "Who is the majestic king?" "The Lord who commands armies! <u>He is the majestic king!"</u> (Psalms, 24: 10)	14	17.07%
	c. Complex	1. Who is the majestic king? <u>the Lord who is strong and mighty! The Lord who is mighty in battle!</u> (Psalms, 24: 8)		
		2. <u>The Lord reigns! He is robed in wears strength around His waist.</u> Indeed, the world is established, it cannot be moved. (Psalms, 93: 1)	7	8.54%
	d. Compound-Complex	1. <u>When I am afraid, I trust in You.</u> In God – I boast in His promise – in God I trust, I am not afraid. What can mere men do to me? (Psalms, 56: 4)		
		2. <u>I will continually thank You when You execute judgment;</u> I will rely on You, for Your loyal followers know You are good. (Psalms, 52: 9)	23	28.05%
		1. <u>Our God is a God who delivers; the Lord, the sovereign Lord, can rescue from death.</u> Indeed God strikes the heads of His enemies, the hairy foreheads of those who persist in rebellion. (Psalms, 68: 20)		
		2. Make Your servant glad, for to You, O Lord, I pray! Certainly O Lord, <u>You are kind and forgiving, and show great faithfulness to all who cry out to You.</u> (Psalms, 86: 5)		
2	Imperative			
	a. Positive	1. <u>Taste and see that the Lord is good!</u> How blessed is the one who takes shelter in Him! (Psalms, 34: 8)	7	8.54%
		2. For foreigners attack me; ruthless men, who do not respect God, seek my life. <u>Look, God is my deliverer!</u> The Lord is among those who support me. (Psalms, 54: 4)		
	b. Negative	1. For the music director, to be accompanied by stringed instruments, according to the sheminith style, a psalm of David. <u>Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger! Do not discipline me in your raging fury!</u> (Psalms, 6: 1)	2	2.44%

		2. <u>Do not remain far away from me, for trouble is near and I have no one to help me.</u> Many bulls surround me; powerful bulls of Bashan hem me in they open their mouths to devour me like a roaring lion that rips its prey. (Psalms, 22: 11)		
3	Interrogative	1. <u>I am absolutely terrified, and You, Lord, how long will this continue?</u> relent, Lord, rescue me! Deliver me because of your faithfulness! (Psalms, 6: 3) 2. For the music director; according to the tune "Morning Doe;" a psalm of David. <u>My God, my God, why have you abandoned me I? I groan in prayer, but help seems far away.</u> (Psalms, 22: 1)	2	2.44%
4	Exclamation	1. For the music director, according to the gittith style; a psalm of David. <u>O Lord, our Lord, how magnificent is your reputation throughout the earth!</u> You reveal your majesty in the heavens above! (Psalms, 8: 1) 2. Say to God: " <u>How awesome are Your deeds!</u> Because of Your great power Your enemies cower in fear before You. All the earth worships You and sings praises to You! They sing praises to Your name!" (Psalms, 66: 3)	2	2.44%
Total			82	100%

The syntactic form of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament is divided into 4. The writer found 82 data and the distribution is: (1) Declarative Sentence, declarative sentence itself is divided into 4 types namely; Simple Sentence 25 data (30.48%), Compound Sentence 14 data (17.07%), Complex Sentence 7 data (8.54%), and Compound-Complex Sentence 23 data (28.05%), (2) Imperative Sentence, imperative sentence itself is also divided into 2 types namely; Positive 7 data (8.54%) and Negative 2 data (2.44%), (3) Interrogative Sentence 2 data (2.44%), and Exclamation 2 data (2.44%). The most percentage of the category of expressive utterances in all of the data that found in Psalms of Old Testament is Declarative Simple Sentence. Imperative Negative Sentence, Interrogative Sentence, and Exclamation are rarely used.

Fowler (1983: 157) describes and classifies sentences in four basic sentence structures are possible: simple, compound, complex, and compound complex.

- 1) Fowler (1983: 157) states that simple sentences consist of a single independent clause.
- 2) Fowler (1983: 157) states that a compound sentence consists of two or more simple sentences joined by: a semicolon and a coordinating conjunction, coordinating conjunctions are easy to remember if you think of the words "FAN BOYS" (For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So).
- 3) Fowler (1983: 158) states that a sentence is complex if it contains one or more subordinate clauses as well as one independent clause.

- 4) Fowler (1983: 158) states that a compound-complex sentence has the characteristics of both the compound sentence (two or more independent clauses) and the complex sentence (at least one subordinate clause).

There are four categories of sentence viewed from the function or the purpose of it: declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamation. Brown et al. (1984: 35) proposes each definition of them.

- Brown et al. (1984: 35) proposes a declarative sentence makes a statement and ends with a period.
- Brown et al. (1984: 35) proposes an interrogative sentence asks a question and ends with a question mark.
- Brown et al. (1984: 35) proposes an exclamatory sentence shows strong feeling and ends with an exclamation point.
- Brown et al. (1984: 35) proposes an imperative sentence gives an order or makes a request. A mild command or request ends with a period, but a strong command or request ends with an exclamation point. Some imperative sentences take the form of questions but are actually mild commands or polite requests. Such sentences end with periods.

b. The Intention of Expressive Utterances

The summary of the intention of expressive utterances is delivered on the table below:

Table 3.2

The Intention of Expressive Utterances

No	Intention	Examples of Data	Amount (Σ)	Percentage (%)
1.	Praising	1. A psalm of David, written when he fled from his son Absalom. Lord how numerous are my enemies! Many attack me. Many say about me, "God will not deliver him". <u>But You, Lord, are a shield that protects me;</u> you are my glory and the one who restores me. (Psalms, 3: 3) 2. For the music director, according to the gittith style; a psalm of David. <u>O Lord, our Lord, how magnificent is your reputation throughout the earth!</u> You reveal your majesty in the heavens above! (Psalms, 8: 1)	45	54.9%
2.	Statement of Pain	1. For the music director, to be accompanied by stringed instruments, according to the sheminith style, a psalm of David. <u>Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger! Do not discipline me in your raging fury!</u> (Psalms, 6: 1) 2. <u>Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am frail! Heal me, Lord, for my bones are shaking!</u> I am absolutely terrified, and You, Lord, how long will this continue? (Psalms, 6: 2)	24	29.3%

3.	Statement of Gratitude	<p>1. For the music director, to be accompanies by stringed instruments; a psalm of David. When I call out, answer me, O God who vindicates me! Though I am hemmed in, You will lead me into a wide, open place. <u>Have mercy on me and respond to my prayer!</u> (Psalms, 4: 1)</p> <p>2. <u>You make me happier than those who have abundant grain and wine.</u> I will lie down and sleep peacefully, for You, Lord, make me safe and secure. (Psalms, 4: 7)</p>	13	15.8%
Total			82	100%

The intention of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament is divided into 3. The writer found 82 data containing expressive utterances in the Psalms of Old Testament and the distribution is: praising 45 data (54.9%), statement of pain 24 data (29.3%), and statement of gratitude 13 data (15.8%). The most percentage of the category of expressive utterances in all of the data that found in Psalms of Old Testament is praising category of expressive utterances. The second that mostly used is statement of pain category of expressive utterances. For the last, statement of gratitude is mostly used.

The previous research related to this study was conducted by Raharjo (2015), a student of Sebelas Maret University, conducts a research entitled “An Analysis of Expressive Utterances Produced by the Characters in the Movie Entitled Spongebob Squarepants: A Pragmatics Study”. (2) there are six notions of expressive utterances found in the Spongebob Squarepants movie transcript, that is, surprise (2 utterances), happiness (14 utterances), anger (6 utterances), apologize (5 utterances), congratulate (1 utterance), and thanks (7 utterances). The research conducted by Raharjo has some differences with this research. The first difference is the source of data. This research uses the transcript of SpongeBob SquarePants movie as the source of data, while the writer’s research uses Psalms of Old Testament manuscript as the source of data. The second one is the result; the result of the research by Raharjo has 6 intentions, while the writer’s research has only found 3 intentions.

Yule (1996: 53) states that expressive are those kinds of speech acts that state what the speaker feels. They express psychological states and can be statements of pleasure, pain, likes, dislikes, joy, or sorrow. Based on the data, the writer found 3 intentions that are included in expressive utterances, they are praising; statement of pain, and statement of gratitude. The mostly intention that is used in the Psalms of Old Testament is praising.

1) Praising

According to Oxford Learner’s Pocket Dictionary (2011: 344), praise is expressing your approval or admiration.

2) Statement of Pain

According to Oxford Learner’s Pocket Dictionary (2011: 315), pain is feelings of suffering that you have in your body when you are hurt or ill. It also includes mental or emotional suffering.

3) Statement of Gratitude

According to Oxford Learner’s Pocket Dictionary (2011: 194), gratitude is feeling of being grateful and wanting to express your thanks.

4. CONCLUSION

The writer takes a conclusion as the answer of focus of the study mentioned in chapter I. Based on the focus of the study and data analysis in the previous chapter, there are some conclusions that can be drawn:

a. Syntactic Form of Expressive Utterances

The syntactic form of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament is divided into 4. The writer found 82 data and the distribution is: (1) Declarative Sentence, declarative sentence itself is divided into 4 types namely; Simple Sentence 25 data (30.48%), Compound Sentence 14 data (17.07%), Complex Sentence 7 data (8.54%), and Compound-Complex Sentence 23 data (28.05%), (2) Imperative Sentence, imperative sentence itself is also divided into 2 types namely; Positive 7 data (8.54%) and Negative 2 data (2.44%), (3) Interrogative Sentence 2 data (2.44%), and Exclamation 2 data (2.44%). The most percentage of the category of expressive utterances in all of the data that found in Psalms of Old Testament is Declarative Simple Sentence. Imperative Negative Sentence, Interrogative Sentence, and Exclamation are rarely used.

b. Intention of Expressive Utterances

The intention of expressive utterances found in the Psalms of Old Testament is divided into 3. Praising utterances are expressed by the speaker as his approval or admiration toward God. Statements of pain are expressed by the speaker as feelings of suffering when he/she is hurt or ill mentally or emotionally. The last, statements of gratitude are expressed when the speaker feels grateful and wants to express his/her thanks. The writer found 89 data containing expressive utterances in the Psalms of Old Testament and the distribution is: praising 45 data (54.9%), statement of pain 24 data (29.3%), and statement of gratitude 13 data (15.8%).

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